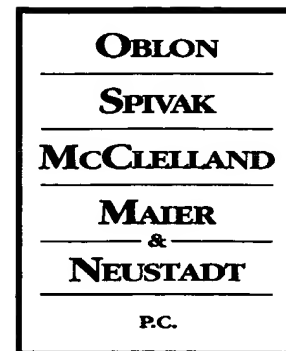




Docket No.: 0557-4962-2

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

GREGORY J. MAIER
(703) 413-3000
GMAIER@OBLON.COM

SURINDER SACHAR
(703) 413-3000
SSACHAR@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/551,466
Applicants: Sadao TAKAHASHI
Filing Date: April 17, 2000
For: IMAGE BINARIZATION APPARATUS, IMAGE
BINARIZATION METHOD, IMAGE PICKUP
APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP METHOD, AND A
COMPUTER PRODUCT
Group Art Unit: 2623
Examiner: DASTOURI, M.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (COPY)
FORM PTO-1449 (COPY)
DATE-STAMPED FILING RECEIPT OF DECEMBER 17, 2004 (COPY)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423



DOCKET NO: 0557-4962-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SADAO TAKAHASHI : EXAMINER: DASTOURI, M.
SERIAL NO: 09/551,466 :
FILED: APRIL 17, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2623
FOR: IMAGE BINARIZATION :
APPARATUS, IMAGE BINARIZATION
METHOD, IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS,
IMAGE PICKUP METHOD, AND A
COMPUTER PRODUCT

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This petition is subsequent to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on
December 17, 2004.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

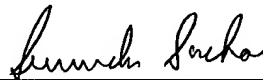
This Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181 requests that the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on December 17, 2004, be considered and acknowledged. That IDS set forth the proper fees and certifications for consideration. At this time applicants have not received a signed copy of the filed form PTO-1449 indicating that the two references cited in the IDS have been considered. Accordingly, this Petition requests that the properly submitted IDS be acknowledged as considered.

For convenience a copy of the filed IDS, including the date-stamped filing receipt indicating its filing, is attached hereto.

As the issue fee has, subsequent to filing the IDS, been required to and has been paid in the present application, an early action on the present Petition is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

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COPY



OSMM&N File No. 0557-4962-2

Serial No. 09/551,466

Dept.: E/M

By: GJM/SNS/jrs

In the matter of the Application of: Sadao TAKAHASHI

For: IMAGE BINARIZATION APPARATUS, IMAGE BINARIZATION METHOD
IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP METHOD, AND A
COMPUTER PRODUCT

Due Date: 12/17/2004

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent Office on the date stamped hereon:

- Dep. Acct. Order Form
- Credit Card Form for \$180.00
- Information Disclosure Statement
- PTO-1449
- Cited References 2
- German Office Action w/translation



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COPY



Docket No. 0557-4962-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Sadao TAKAHASHI

SERIAL NO: 09/551,466

GAU: 2623

FILED: April 17, 2000

EXAMINER: Dastouri, Mehrdad

FOR: IMAGE BINARIZATION APPARATUS, IMAGE BINARIZATION METHOD, IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP METHOD, AND A COMPUTER PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and German Office Action. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☒ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☒ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

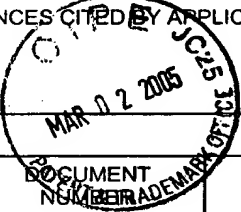
Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)

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SHEET 1 OF 1

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|--|--------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Form PTO 1449 (Modified) | | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 0557-4962-2 | | SERIAL NO. 09/551,466 | |
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  | | | | APPLICANT Sadao TAKAHASHI | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE April 17, 2000 | | GROUP 2623 | |
| | | | | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE | |
| | AA | 5,450,163 | 9/12/1995 | IWASAKI | | | |
| | AB | 5,796,876 | 8/18/1998 | WANG, et al. | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
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| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| | AY | | | | | | |
| | AZ | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached | |
| Examiner | | | | Date Considered | | | |
| *Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | |